COMMISSIONERS

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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION

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BOB STUMP - Chairman **GARY PIERCE** 4

BRENDA BURNS

BOB BURNS

WATER DISTRICT.

SUSAN BITTER SMITH

AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR A

VALUE OF ITS UTILITY PLANT AND

WATER DISTRICT AND ITS SUN CITY

AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE CURRENT FAIR

VALUE OF ITS UTILITY PLANT AND PROPERTY AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS

ANTHEM/AGUA FRIA WASTEWATER

DISTRICT AND ITS SUN CITY WEST

FOR UTILITY SERVICE BY ITS

WASTEWATER DISTRICT.

RATES AND CHARGES BASED THEREON

DISTRICT, ITS SUN CITY WASTEWATER

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY,

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY. DETERMINATION OF THE CURRENT FAIR PROPERTY AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS RATES AND CHARGES BASED THEREON FOR UTILITY SERVICE BY ITS ANTHEM

DOCKETED BY

DOCKET NO. W-01303A-09-0343

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

DEC 1 0 2014

DOCKET NO. SW-01303A-09-0343

RUSSELL RANCH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.'S RESPONSE TO **COMMISSIONER BRENDA BURNS' DECEMBER 2, 2014 LETTER**

The Russell Ranch Homeowners' Association, Inc. ("Russell Ranch") hereby responds to the questions contained in Commissioner Brenda Burns' December 2, 2014, letter to interested parties and stakeholders in this docket.

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Prior to the Settlement Agreement, what was your position on 1. deconsolidation and consolidation? Were you in favor or opposed to full consolidation, full deconsolidation, partial consolidation or or a reversal of the Anthem/Agua Fria deconsolidation. deconsolidation? Other?

Russell Ranch strongly supported the proposal by EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. ("EPCOR") to fully consolidate its five wastewater districts as described in the pre-filed testimony of EPCOR witnesses Shawn Bradford and Sheryl Hubbard. While Russell Ranch still supports full consolidation, it also supports the Settlement Agreement because it stops a January 1, 2015, rate increase from going into effect and provides much-needed interim rate relief for customers in the Russell Ranch development specifically and the Agua Fria Wastewater District generally until such time as the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") considers the question of full consolidation in a future EPCOR consolidated wastewater division rate case. Ultimately, if the Commission decides against full consolidation, then Russell Ranch supports full deconsolidation of EPCOR's Agua Fria Wastewater District.

2. Since the Settlement Agreement has your position changed?

No. As stated above, Russell Ranch supports the Settlement Agreement because it stops a January 1, 2015, rate increase from going into effect and provides much-needed interim rate relief until such time as the Commission considers the question of full consolidation in a future consolidated EPCOR wastewater division rate case.

Do you see the Settlement Agreement as the first step toward your 3. position? Please explain.

The Settlement Agreement stops a January 1, 2015 rate increase from going into effect and provides much-needed interim rate relief until such time as the Commission addresses the question of full consolidation in a future consolidated EPCOR wastewater division rate case. Russell Ranch continues to support full consolidation.

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4. How does the Settlement Agreement advance or hinder the position you support?

The residents of Russell Ranch have seen their wastewater bills increase dramatically since deconsolidation of Anthem from the Agua Fria Wastewater District. A typical monthly wastewater bill increased from approximately \$70 in 2012 to approximately \$107 currently, with an additional increase scheduled for January 1, 2015 that will take the monthly wastewater charge to approximately \$130. As recently as 2007, the typical monthly wastewater charge was around \$38. The Settlement Agreement stops the January 1, 2015 rate increase from going into effect and also provides much-needed interim rate relief until while the Commission considers the question of full consolidation in a future consolidated EPCOR wastewater division rate case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 10th day of December, 2014.

BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK LLP

Jeffrey W. Crockett/Esq.

One East Washington Street, Suite 2400

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Attorneys for Russell Ranch Homeowners' Association, Inc.

ORIGINAL and thirteen (13) copies of the foregoing filed this 10th day of December, 2014, with:

Docket Control

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

1200 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

COPY of the foregoing hand-delivered this 10th day of December, 2014, to:

Lyn Farmer, Chief Administrative Law Judge

26 | Hearing Division

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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